Appln. No.: 10/674,134 Amdt. Dated April 11, 2006

Reply to Office Action dated January 13, 2006

## Remarks/Arguments

Reconsideration of this Application is requested.

Claims 1-10 have been rejected by the Examiner under 35 USC § 103(a) as being obvious over Michael Critelli et. al. (U.S. Patent Pub. 2003/0093389) in view of Flavio Manduley (U.S. Patent Pub. 2004/0098354).

The present application, the Michael Critelli et. al. Patent Publication and the Flavio Manduley Patent Publicationwere assigned to Pitney Bowes Inc. and were at the time of the present invention of the present application, commonly owned by or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same entity, namely Pitney Bowes Inc. as indicated in the attached statement of common ownership under 35 USC § 103(c). Thus, the Michael Critelli et. al. and Flavio Manduley Patent Publications should be removed as a reference under 35 USC § 103(c) for the present application.

In view of the above claims 1-10 are patentable. If the Examiner has any questions would the Examiner please call the undersigned at the telephone number noted below.

Respectfully submitted,

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